

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON FISH AND GAME**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN JOSEPH (JOE) TROPILA**, on March 24, 2005 at 5:00 P.M., in Room 422 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Joseph (Joe) Tropila, Chairman (D)  
Sen. Keith Bales (R)  
Sen. Joe Balyeat (R)  
Sen. Gregory D. Barkus (R)  
Sen. Steven Gallus (D)  
Sen. Ken (Kim) Hansen (D)  
Sen. Lane L. Larson (D)  
Sen. Don Ryan (D)  
Sen. Bill Tash (R)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Annie Glover, Committee Secretary  
Chris Lohse, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 514, 3/21/2005; HB 260,  
3/21/2005; HB 172, 3/21/2005  
Executive Action: None.

00:00:00

**HEARING ON HB 514**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

REP. GAIL GUTSCHE (D), HD 99, opened the hearing on HB 514, Increase restitution for illegal taking of grizzly bear.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:02:55            Mr. Sterling Miller, Wildlife Biologist, National Wildlife Federation

**EXHIBIT(fis65a01)**

00:05:58            Mr. Chris Smith, Chief of Staff, Fish, Wildlife and Parks

**EXHIBIT(fis65a02)**

00:08:28            Ms. Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon

**EXHIBIT(fis65a03)**

00:10:36            Mr. Don Judge, Montana Chapter, Sierra Club

00:11:12            Ms. Jean Johnson, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association

00:11:39            Mr. Robert Throssell, Montana Wildlife Federation

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

00:12:15

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:18:55

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:20:45

**HEARING ON HB 260**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

REP. WILLIAM JONES (R), HD 9, opened the hearing on HB 260, Water-based recreational access purchase and funding.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:22:52           **Mr. Chris Smith, Chief of Staff, Fish, Wildlife  
and Parks**

**EXHIBIT(fis65a04)**

00:24:10           **Mr. John Wilson, Montana Trout Unlimited**

00:24:24           **Ms. Jean Johnson, Montana Outfitters and Guides  
Association**

00:24:39           **Mr. Robert Throssell, Montana Wildlife Federation**

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

00:25:07

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:27:38

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:30:03

**HEARING ON HB 172**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

**REP. JILL COHENOUR (D), HD 78,** opened the hearing on **HB 172,**  
Revise certain resident & nonresident hunting and fishing license  
fees.

**EXHIBIT(fis65a05)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:34:21           **Mr. Chris Smith, Chief of Staff, Fish, Wildlife  
and Parks**

**EXHIBIT(fis65a06)**

00:47:37           **Mr. Robert Throssell, Montana Wildlife Federation**

00:48:07           **Mr. Sterling Miller, National Wildlife Federation**

**EXHIBIT(fis65a07)**

00:48:56           **Mr. John Wilson, Montana Trout Unlimited**

00:54:41           **Mr. Bob Gilbert, Executive Director, Walleyes  
Unlimited**

00:57:01           **Ms. Jean Johnson, Montana Outfitters and Guides  
Association, also and behalf of Robin Cunningham**

**EXHIBIT**(fis65a08)

01:02:17           **Ms. Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon**

**Opponents' Testimony:** None.

**Informational Testimony:** None.

01:02:43

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

**Mr. Jeff Hagener, Director, Fish, Wildlife and Parks**

01:26:57

**Closing by Sponsor:**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 6:30 P.M.

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SEN. JOSEPH (JOE) TROPILA, Chairman

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ANNIE GLOVER, Secretary

JT/ag

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([fis65aad0.PDF](#))**